

(e) the present potential of wind energy in the country and how much has so far been tapped?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY (SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR): (a) Government encourage setting up of wind power projects in the country by providing fiscal incentives, such as concessional import duty on certain components of wind electric generator, excise duty exemption, ten years' tax holiday on income generated from wind power projects, benefit of accelerated depreciation, loan from Indian Renewable Energy Development Agency (IREDA) and technical support by the Centre for Wind Energy Technology (C-WET) including detailed wind resource assessment to identify further potential sites. This apart, preferential tariff is being provided for wind power in most of the potential States.

(b) to (d) No, Sir. Wind monitoring studies carried out at various locations along the coast lines have indicated modest potential only at Rameshwaram in Tamil Nadu and Mundra at Gulf of Kutch. Setting up of the wind power projects in these locations would not be economically viable with the present level of technology.

(e) A gross wind power potential in the country has been estimated at about 45,000 MW taking areas having wind power density greater than 200 W/m² at 50 metre hub-height assuming land availability @ 1% of potential areas and wind farm land requirement @ 12 ha/MW, A total wind power capacity of 6270 MW has been installed in the country as on 31st December, 2006.

Subsidies for non-conventional energy power plants

648. SHRI S.M. LALJAN BASHA: Will the Minister of NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether IREDA is the nodal agency for disbursing subsidies for various non-conventional energy power plants;

(b) if so, the nature of disbursals by IREDA in the years 2004-05 and 2005-06;

(c) whether the role of IREDA could be much more cheaply and efficiently handled by other financial agencies;

(d) whether it is a fact that entrepreneurs face a lot of problems with IREDA; and

(e) the steps proposed to improve and streamline IREDA?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY (SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

(d) and (e) IREDA is an ISO 9001:2000 certified company which enters into an annual Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with this Ministry. Customer satisfaction, including quality of services forms a part of the MoU. The MoU rating of IREDA for 2005-06 was 'Good'. MoU targets are periodically monitored and corrective action, if required, taken.

Setting up of technology centres in the country

649. SHRI ABU ASIM AZMI: Will the Minister of NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to sign any MoU with foreign countries for setting up of technology centres in the country to tap non-conventional energy sources;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the names of the countries with which the agreement is expected to be finalized; and

(c) how far the country/States shall be benefited due to this?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY (SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

New hydel power policy

650. MS. PRAMILA BOHIDAR: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to bring out a new hydel power policy to ensure time-bound development of hydro-electric projects and attract increased private sector investment;